



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08203.0005-04000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
 )  
John BUTLER et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3733  
 )  
Application No.: 10/665,395 ) Examiner: A. Ramana  
 )  
Filed: September 22, 2003 )  
 )  
For: WOUND RETRACTOR SYSTEM ) Confirmation No.: 4412  
 )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO/SB/08.

Applicants are not required to provide copies of the listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications.

With the exception of one (1) document, the foreign documents listed in the Form PTO/SB/08 were previously cited in prior Application No. 10/374,523, filed February 27, 2003, upon which Applicants rely for the benefits of 35 U.S.C. § 120. Under the

provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of these previously cited documents are not being submitted herewith.

A copy of the document that was not cited in prior Application No. 10/374,523, is submitted herewith: WO 95/24864 is enclosed.

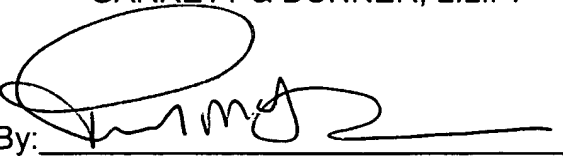
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: 

Roland G. McAndrews  
Reg. No. 41,450

Dated: November 2, 2006

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First Named Inventor	John Butler
Art Unit	3733
Examiner Name	A. Ramana
Attorney Docket Number	08203.0005-04000

## U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
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Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translatio n <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		WO 95/24864	09/1995	PCT		
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		WO 2005/009257 A2	02/2005	PCT		
		SU 1342485	1/1997	Russia		Yes
		2001-61850	3/2001	Japan		Abs
		2004-195037	7/2004	Japan		Abs

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Copy of Original Specification of 11/486,383, filed July 14, 2006.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.